

University of Alberta Library



0 1620 2673034 9

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
M.V.A. FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

by

ROYDEN KELLY MILLS

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS

IN

SCULPTURE
DEPARIMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

FALL 1990



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024 with funding from
University of Alberta Library

<https://archive.org/details/Mills1990>

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend
to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a
thesis entitled:

MVA FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

submitted by ROYDEN KELLY MILLS
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of
Visual Arts.

The University of Alberta

RELEASE FORM

NAME OF AUTHOR ROYDEN KELLY MILLS

TITLE OF THESIS MVA

DEGREE FOR WHICH THESIS WAS GRANTED MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS

YEAR THIS DEGREE WAS GRANTED 1990

Permission is hereby granted to THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY to reproduce single copies of this thesis, and to lend or sell such copies for private, scholarly, or scientific research purposes only.

The author reserves other publication rights, and neither the thesis nor extensive extracts from it may be printed or otherwise reproduced without the author's written permission.

DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

GRADUATE STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

I hereby release the following works for incorporation into the University Collections, University of Alberta, as part of the Master of Visual Arts Thesis Collection:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEDIUM</u>	<u>SIZE</u>
HOWELL'S HOSPITAL	1990	STEEL	5'7" X 7'X6"

1-1 Fine Arts Building
University of Alberta
112 Street and 89 Avenue
Edmonton, Canada T6G 2C9
(403) 492-2081

Gallery Hours:
Tuesday to Friday
10am - 5pm
Sunday 2-5pm
Closed Saturday and Monday

Royden Mills sculpture

The exhibition is
the final visual
presentation in
partial fulfilment of
the requirements for
the degree of
Master of Visual Arts

October 3 to 21, 1990

Opening Reception
Thursday, October 4
7pm to 10pm

Promotional
assistance
provided
by the
Alberta
Art
Foundation

1-1 Fine Arts Building
University of Alberta
112 Street and 89 Avenue
Edmonton, Canada T6G 2C9
(403) 492-2081

Gallery Hours:
Tuesday to Friday
10am - 5pm
Sunday 2-5pm
Closed Saturday and Monday

Royden Mills sculpture

The exhibition is
the final visual
presentation in
partial fulfilment of
the requirements for
the degree of
Master of Visual Arts

October 3 to 21, 1990

Opening Reception
Thursday, October 4
7pm to 10pm

Promotional
assistance
provided
by the
Alberta
Art
Foundation

 **f a b** 
Fine Arts Building
Department of Art and Design
University of Alberta
gallery

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am very reluctant to call this an artist's statement because I hope and believe that my visual art is my statement. I believe that visual art, which is truly meaningful, can survive across time without an accompanying written explanation. I am thrilled with the way Beethoven's or Mozart's music can give such meaning to the audience without a single rational word. I wish that the audience of my sculpture be allowed to bring their own past experiences and imagination to my work. After all, that is a big reason for me choosing to work abstractly. I want the experience of viewing my work to be more of an intuitive dialogue between my materialized vision and the viewer's experience of the world. A piano sounds like nothing in the natural world, but if played in a certain way it can sound like a waterfall or a thunder storm, or it can sound happy or mournful. I am interested in making visual art which addresses just such metaphors. I strive to make art which describes what I think is true and meaningful about being alive.

The making of art is a process which I believe mimics life. In our lives we have an internal will to achieve our goals, and we try to control the external material world to reach these goals. Very often the external world brings events which are beyond our control and we are forced to react and modify our original goals. I believe that in making art, our process must embrace this as a law of nature not to be fought. I am very interested in the surprise and living essence which can come from a sensitive awareness of unforeseen events of the material world bringing something better than my will had planned.

Of all the media that I have tried to reach personal expression with, none has suited me better than welded steel. The steel is heavy and very physical and sometimes requires me to be very physically engaged in the process. I like this. It seems very real and primitive to be moving and struggling with the material. I find steel to be very responsive to my will in spite of its physical weight. Elements can be added, carved into or removed very quickly. And the strength of welded steel allows physical weight to be oriented in very delicate ways. There is no better material for me to try to express myself.

I make sculpture in order to control an aspect of the external world.

Roy Mills 1990 M.V.A. Exhibition Slide List

1. Howell's Holster 1990	5'7" x 7' x 6'
2. Saunter/Saint Tere 1990	5'7" x 6'2" x 5'
3. West Coast Trail 1990	5'5" x 10' x 4'
4. Of The Wall 1989	6'4" x 7' x 4'
5. Hidden Giver 1990	7'2" x 3' x 4'
6. Blues Slide 1990	6'4" x 5' x 3'
7. Cognac 1989	4'11" x 6' x 4'
8. Apple Cart 1990	4' x 6' x 2'
9. Hot Dog Stand 1990	4'5" x 5' x 2'
10. Stealing Second 1990	3' x 4' x 2'
11. Soap Box 1990	3' x 3'6" x 2'
12. Recline 1989	18" x 46" x 12"
13. Block Head 1989	22" x 12" x 10"
14. Rug Burn 1990	24" x 12" x 16"
15. Signature 1990	10" x 38" x 12"
16. Cradle 1990	10" x 20" x 12"
17. Suspension 1990	22" x 22" x 22"
18. Aphony 1990	20" x 20" x 20"
19. After Eight 1990	14" x 36" x 12"
20. Royal Hudson 1990	18" x 48" x 16"

*All Pieces Constructed In Welded Steel

C9642